

## NJMC NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Brian Aberback, Public Information Officer

Phone: 201-460-4619 • Cell: 201-615 8570 brian.aberback@njmeadowlands.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2009

## **NJMC Honored With Green Policy Award**

**LYNDHURST, N.J.** – The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) today was named recipient of the U.S. Green Building Council – New Jersey Chapter's 2009 Green Policy Award. The Commission is being recognized for its commitment to cutting energy consumption and fighting global warming through its green and sustainable policies and initiatives.

"The NJMC takes great pride in its efforts to foster a more sustainable Meadowlands, and we are honored to be recognized by the USGBC as a leader in green policy," said Joseph Doria, Chairman of the NJMC and Commissioner of state Department of Community Affairs.

The Commission has led by example through its efforts to make its own operations more energy efficient, including its plans to install a series of solar farms on landfills. Last year the Commission opened its new Center for Environmental and Scientific Education, a fully green building. The NJMC encourages others to go green by offering financial incentives, grants and technical assistance to private developers and public entitites who invest in solar energy and pursue green building projects.

The Commission has also published several sets of green guidelines to help developers and towns identify ways to cut energy consumption and reduce pollution in all aspects of development, from choosing building materials and heating and cooling systems, to landscaping choices and garbage disposal methods.

The Commission's green policies are outlined in the NJMC Energy Master Plan. The plan, adopted last year, is in line with the state Energy Master Plan and Gov. Corzine's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 20 percent by the year 2020 under the state Global Warming Response Act.

"The NJMC has long recognized that green building and sustainable planning is crucial to the future of the Meadowlands, and the nation," said Robert Ceberio, Executive Director of the

NJMC. "We appreciate the USGBC's recognition and will continue to seek innovative ways to be more energy-efficient while keeping our environment out of harm's way."

The USGBC is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to making green buildings available to everyone within a generation. The NJMC will receive the Green Policy Award at the New Jersey Chapter's 3rd Annual Building A Greener New Jersey Gala on May 21.

###